

ROLES OF THE CITIZENS

What is a Citizen?

A **citizen** is an official member of a **community**. A citizen has rights and responsibilities. A citizen can help make decisions that affect the community.

There are some important ways to show **good citizenship**.

- 1. **Respect** We treat others as we want to be treated. We welcome differences. We volunteer.
- 2. **Caring** Think about others. Think about ways to improve our community. Conserve resources. Reduce, reuse, recycle. Good citizens do not litter or waste.
- 3. **Responsibility** Do what is right. Think before you act. Pay taxes. Vote in elections.



Election - the act of voting

Laws - rules made by our government that everyone must follow

Tax - an amount of money paid to the government to pay for services

Volunteer - a person who works without pay

Community living - Get along with our neighbors

Role-model - a person who is seen and copied. A hero is a role-model.

Prejudice - jealously or unkind feelings toward others who are different from us

Patriotism - showing respect and care for the country you live in



Naturalization - a process in which immigrants take an oath and become US citizens. They must pass a test of US history and government. Then they must appear before a judge to tell why they want to be a citizen. They must agree to be fingerprinted to become an official citizen.

Armed Services - Army, Navy, Marines, Coast Guard, Air Force, National Guard

Pledge of Allegiance - 1872 Francis Bellamy - We understand what the words mean when we say:



I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America

I promise to be faithful to my country

And to the Republic for which it stands And to the people the flag represents

One nation under God, indivisible
One country led by God which cannot be divided

With liberty and justice for all With freedom and equal treatment for everyone



Try this!

Ask yourself if you are the kind of good citizen you have been reading about.

- Do you respect others?
- Do you care about your community?
- Do you take responsibility?
- Are you fair?
- Do you have courage?
- Are you honest?



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